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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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POLSTER, LIEDER, WOODRUFF & LUCCHESI
12412 POWERSCOURT DRIVE SUITE 200
ST. LOUIS, MO 63131-3615

EXAMINER

LAY, MICHELLE K

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2628

DATE MAILED: 06/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/645,468

Applicant(s)

HAYNES, DAVID DONALD

Examiner

Michelle K. Lay

Art Unit

2628

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 April 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-19 and 21-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-19 and 21-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 04/10/2006 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

The amendment filed 03/03/2006 and 04/10/2006 has been entered and made of record. Claims 1, 3-19, and 21-28 are pending. The amendment to claims 3 and 21 has overcome the 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph rejection made in the final office action filed 12/27/2005. The amendment to the disclosure filed 03/03/2006 is not being accepted because the amendment to the paragraph on page 8, line 27, failed to correct the lighting bolt referenced as "LB" wherein in Fig. 3B, the lightning bolt is referenced as "L".

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 09/09/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that the teachings of Wobben and Cease fail to disclose monitoring interconnected segments within a network. Examiner respectfully disagrees. The monitoring of Wobben implicitly monitors and provides status information between the installations, i.e. the lines within the network. Thus, if an installation's status fails, this can lead to an indication that lines between installments have failed, non-serviceability, break-downs, etc.. [0009]. Furthermore, the same reason can be applicable to the monitoring of Cease.

Additionally, Applicant argues Wobben fails to teach plotting historical data. Wobben teaches that it is advantageous to provide past data so that the person viewing it also has a highly informative picture about the reliability of an installation [0015]. Furthermore, Sams Teach Yourself Microsoft Excel 2000 in 24 Hours (further referred to as Excel) teaches the different types of charts and options available for displaying data from a worksheet [pg. 222-225]. These charts may also be displayed in a three-dimensional format such that the information represented by the x, y, and z-axes may be determined by the user. Therefore, from the reasoning above, and the rationale to combine below, Wobben teaches monitoring interconnected segments within a network and thus the data from Wobben provides a means for the 3D display as taught by Excel, to help a user distinguish between different sets of data [Excel: pg. 224]. Furthermore, by representing the data on a graph such that the locations within the network segment

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(power installations), performance characteristics (power output data, wind data and temperature data), and time are each represented by an axis, the overall health of the network may be easily ascertained by viewing both the present and past value characteristics of the segments.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On page 9, line 17, the lightning bolt is referenced as "LB" however in Fig. 3B, the lightning bolt is referenced as "L".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1, 3-5, and 11-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wobben (2004/0021687 A1) in view of Sams Teach Yourself Microsoft Excel 2000 in 24 Hours and Cease et al. ("Real-Time Monitoring").

In regard to claim 1, Wobben teaches of a method for displaying the operating conditions of a wind power installation in a graphic display. A symbol is specified in an

overview such as for example, a geographical map (for example a map of Germany), for each installation or a group of installations, in which case the nature of the installation and the operating status of the respective installation or a group of installations can be derived from the symbol [0011]. Fig. 2 shows a display of the invention in which various symbols are used to represent separate segments of a network of installations.

Furthermore, Wobben discloses the meaning of the different symbols used to display the performance characteristics of the installations to an observer of the graphic display.

For example, a symbol such as a green circle can signify that the installation is a wind power installation that is (serviceable) in operation while a symbol such as a red circle indicates that the installation is out of operation [0012]. Thus by using a system of

green, red, and red-green circles, an observer is able to determine whether operations within the network are acceptable, if there is a problem, where it is occurring, and the magnitude of the problem such as if an installation is switched off due to maintenance operations or if it is out of operation (said **displaying the results ...**). Furthermore,

Wobben teaches that other graphical representations may be used to present the network data such as a tabular view based on statistical assessments [0044-0046]. As

shown in Fig. 1, the invention of Wobben monitors connected terminals, such as the WEA connected to the central DP for operating data as illustrated. Additionally,

Wobben teaches that the entire 'fleet' of installations (i.e. the network) (said **interconnected line segments**), can be monitored. Therefore, the user can see the

respective operating condition of the installations and whether it is not operating

satisfactorily by virtue of an operational disturbance (said **monitoring a section of the**

network) [0015]. Furthermore, although not explicitly taught, it is implicit that the monitoring of Wobben provides status information between the installations, i.e. the lines within the network. Thus, if an installation's status fails, this can lead to an indication that lines between installments have failed, non-serviceability, break-downs, etc.. [0009].

Cease discloses a system of phasor measurement units employed throughout the TVA power system that are able to monitor the voltage and current at their position in the system. The measurement units are placed at certain buses (service paths) in order to monitor the TVA system (said **monitoring interconnected line segments**). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the invention of Wobben to include monitoring and displaying the results of the characteristics of service paths within the network. One would have been motivated to make such a modification to Wobben so that the system for monitoring the health of power stations and their interconnections may be more comprehensive in their evaluations and generated performance display. Furthermore, as stated above, it is implicit that the monitoring of provides status information between the nodes, i.e. the lines within the network. Thus, if an installation's status fails, this can lead to an indication that lines between installments have failed, non-serviceability, break-downs, etc..

Sams Teach Yourself Microsoft Excel 2000 in 24 Hours (further referred to as Excel) gives an overview of the functions available to a user of Microsoft Excel 2000. Excel teaches the different types of charts and options available for displaying data from

a worksheet [pg. 222-225]. These charts may also be displayed in a three-dimensional format such that the information represented by the x, y, and z-axes may be determined by the user (said ***three-dimensional display***). Wobben states that data measured from the power installations is transmitted to a central data processing station and processed there [Wobben [0022]]. Thus, by running the Microsoft Excel program on the central database, the transmitted data may be processed in the data worksheets and displayed by the 3D charts according to the Excel program. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the Microsoft Excel program as taught by Excel for data processing and three-dimensional data display, allowing each of the axes to be defined as desired such as network locations, performance characteristics, and time. One would have been motivated to make such a modification to the invention of Wobben so that as taught by Excel, a 3D chart display may help a user distinguish between different sets of data [Excel: pg. 224]. Furthermore, by representing the data on a graph such that the locations within the network segment (power installations), performance characteristics (power output data, wind data and temperature data), and time are each represented by an axis, the overall health of the network may be easily ascertained by viewing both the present and past value characteristics of the segments.

In regard to claim 3, the same basis and rationale for claim rejection as applied to claim 1 is applied. Wobben in view of Cease and Excel teaches of the ability of the user to designate the information represented by the various axes in a 3D chart as described

above. Therefore, the service paths within the network segment may additionally be represented on an axis of the 3D chart.

In regard to claim 4, Wobben describes displaying current data about the network on a terrain map of Germany as shown in Fig. 2 [0011-0012]. Furthermore, Wobben teaches discloses displaying data representing the operating times of a given past period of time, for example the past month, the last year and so forth, so that the person viewing it also has a highly informative picture about the reliability of an installation [0015]. Thus, Wobben includes additionally displaying historical as well as current information about the network to monitor and improve the quality of service within the network.

In regard to claim 5, Wobben teaches of constantly updating the acquisition of operational data for displaying a continuously updated map [0016]. Furthermore, Wobben teaches of producing up-to-date operational information on a map/overview to a viewer. The person looking at the map/overview can see therefrom, how reliable (or how unreliable) the installations of a given manufacturer/operator generally are and can form therefrom a judgment about the quality of the installations [0040]. Thus, a plurality of updated displays comprising a terrain map, as shown in Fig. 2, are continuously provided to the user to monitor and improve the quality of service within the network.

The method of claims 11 and 12 are disclosed by the invention of Wobben, Cease, and Excel. Fig. 2 shows a graphic display in which various installation segments of the

electrical distribution network are included in the same display. Wobben teaches the function of producing a separate display from the original display of the multiple segments to provide information about a particular installation. By touching the symbol of an installation or a wind park with a pointer such as for example a mouse pointer or by clicking or double clicking on the symbol, it is possible to display further selected, openly available items of information about the installation or the wind park [0031]. Thus, information from the entire network is combined to produce an overall graphic display wherein separate displays are made available to a user for the viewing of information of a particular installation segment.

In regard to claims **13** and **14**, the same basis and rationale for claim rejection as applied to claim 1 is applied. As described above in the rejection of claim 1, Wobben teaches of using symbols to display the performance characteristics of the installations to an observer of the graphic display. Additionally, the symbols are color-coded to identify particular types of incidents that occurred at particular locations to facilitate interpreting the display [0012].

The method of claim **15** is disclosed by the invention of Wobben, Cease, and Excel. Excel describes the functionality of Microsoft Excel 2000 for rotating a 3D chart display such that the view of the chart may be oriented according to the desire of a user [pg. 237]. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the method of Wobben to include rotating the

terrain map about any of its axis. One would have been motivated to make such a modification to Wobben so that a user viewing the map may be able to manipulate the orientation of the layout and view hidden or obscured data.

The method of claims **16** and **17** are disclosed by the invention of Wobben, Cease, and Excel. Wobben describes electronically storing information from the graphical display and allowing users to access the information via the Internet. The overview provided in that way can identify various kinds of installations and is constantly updated, stored in the form of an electronic file and made available in an information network, for example an Internet network, and made available for being called up by way of an Internet domain address, for example by way of the address of the installation manufacturer [0013]. Thus, the stored information can also be displayed at more than one viewing location through transmission of the information over an information network.

The method of claim **18** is disclosed by the invention of Wobben, Cease, and Excel. Wobben discuss displaying data on the graphic display representing various periods of time. Additionally, a continuously updated map allows users the ability to view the serviceability of installations on the display. Wobben teaches that it is also advantageous not only to associate still further data with an operating site of an installation but also to already represent it on the map. Such data can be for example the operating times of a given past period of time, for example the past month, the last year and so forth, so that the person viewing it also has a highly informative picture

about the reliability of an installation. Thus, by virtue of the constantly updated acquisition of operational data, it is possible by way of a network such as for example the Internet for anyone to obtain online a continuously updated map which also shows the viewer the serviceability of a plurality of installations in a given geographical area, and this is always on an up-to-date basis (or up-to-date in the context of a day or a week) [0015-0016]. Thus, the display is periodically updated to include information for another predetermined period of time.

2. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wobben (2004/0021687 A1), "Sams Teach Yourself Microsoft Excel 2000 in 24 Hours", and Cease et al. ("Real-Time Monitoring") as applied to claim 5 above, and further in view of Sams Teach Yourself Microsoft PowerPoint 2000 in 10 Minutes.

In regard to claim 6, Wobben teaches of a plurality of displays as discloses in claim 5 such that the terrain map is continuously updated for producing up-to-date operational information to a viewer. Wobben discloses that additional data may be displayed so that a viewer may ascertain the reliability of an installation [0015]. However, Wobben as modified in claim 5, does not teach of arranging the terrain maps in a loop of maps such that a user traversing through the loop may obtain information about the quality of network performance over time. Sams Teach Yourself Microsoft PowerPoint 2000 in 10 Minutes (further referred to as PowerPoint) teaches that graphical charts may be inserted into slides for presentation [pg. 148]. Furthermore, PowerPoint teaches that a slide show may be set to continuously loop through its

contents [pg. 173]. Thus, by inserting each of the up-to-date charts of Wobben onto a separate slide, the history of terrain maps may be arranged to loop through the series of maps. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the invention of Wobben to include arranging a loop of maps onto a group of slides and continuously loop through the slides as taught in PowerPoint. One would have been motivated to make such a modification so that a user can ascertain the reliability of an installation, as mentioned in Wobben [0015], by viewing successive time frames of the monitored network.

3. Claims **7-10**, **19**, and **21-23**, and **25-27** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wobben 2004/0021687 A1), Sams Teach Yourself Microsoft Excel 2000 in 24 Hours, and Cease et al. ("Real-Time Monitoring") as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Bauer et al. (6,026,145).

The invention of Wobben, Cease, and Excel discloses the methods of claims **7** and **8** except in which monitoring a segment of the network includes counting customer complaints regarding problems within areas of the network segment and counting the occurrences of power outages within the network segment. Wobben, as stated in the rejection for claims 1, 11, and 12, discloses determining a power outage of an installation segment in a graphic display and displaying the segment in a color-coded symbol. Bauer teaches of a method and apparatus for fault segmentation in a telephone network. Bauer includes the use of trouble reports and complaints from customers to narrow the possible locations for failures in the network. A trouble history

analyzer is also included to take into consideration past complications and problems for finding faults in the network. Bauer describes a black spot analyzer that performs the function of incorporating customer complaints to determine the location of a failure in the network as well as the trouble history analyzer [col. 15, lines 15-24, 38-49]. Bauer also teaches using the black spot and trouble history analyzers where the rule-based classifier 356 is preferably another rule based expert system. It is programmed with rules to make predictions about failure locations based on the conclusions drawn by footprint analyzer 350, black spot analyzer 352 and trouble history analyzer 354 and based on information about the current line, including footprint information, cable data and historical failure information [col. 15, lines 52-59]. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the method of Wobben to include counting customer complaints regarding problems within areas of a network segment as shown in Bauer. One would have been motivated to make such a modification to facilitate the locating of faults in the monitored network and further monitor the health of the network system through the use of customer complaints. It would have additionally been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the method of Wobben to include counting the occurrences of power outages with the network segment as performed by the trouble history analyzer in Bauer. One would have been motivated to make such a modification such that particularly trouble prone network segments may be more closely monitored so as to facilitate the locating of faults in the monitored network.

Additionally, by determining the locations within the network where power outages historically occur, preventative measures may be taken to alleviate the problem.

The method of claim 9 is disclosed by the invention of Wobben, Cease, Excel, and Bauer. Wobben discloses that data relating to the total amounts of energy delivered by the installations may be specified by the display. Besides the functional or operating data of the installations, it is also possible to specify, in relation to each installation, the wind data and/or the operating data of the individual installations or the data relating to the total amounts of energy delivered by the installation [0041]. Cease discloses a system of phasor measurement units employed throughout the TVA power system that are able to monitor the voltage and current at their position in the system. The data concentrator can also be configured to return the actual voltage at the PMUs real panel input, or as an actual line voltage or current if the appropriate pt or ct ration or shunt resistances are provided the data concentrator [Cease: pg. 3]. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the method of Wobben to include measuring line voltages at locations within the network as done by Cease. One would have been motivated to make such a modification so that further information regarding the operation of an installation, such as the line voltages, may be available during the monitoring of the energy delivered the installation, allowing the health and properties of the network to be more fully scrutinized.

The method of claim **10** is disclosed by the invention of Wobben, Cease, Excel, and Bauer. Wobben teaches that it is known that the operating behavior of an installation can be continuously detected and the detected data can also be made available to the operator of the installation. If for example the operator of an installation has a suitable telecommunication device (for example a modem), he can obtain information about all relevant data of his installation, for example whether it is in operation, the output power with which it is operating at the present time or whether there is a fault, and if so, what the reason for the fault is, and so forth [0002]. Thus, the information about the installation segment is obtained using a two-way communications system via a modem.

In regard to claim **19**, the same basis and rationale for claim rejection as applied to claims 1 and 8 are applied. As stated in the rejection of claim 1, Wobben, Cease, and Excel disclose a method of providing a graphic display of an electrical distribution network to provide network personnel insight as to network operation wherein a plurality of network segments are monitored to obtain information about predetermined types of incidents occurring within each respective segment. These incidents are represented by a plurality of different symbols and color-codes on the display. Fig. 2 shows a graphic display for monitoring a plurality of installation network segments to obtain information about predetermined types of incidents occurring within each respective segment. Furthermore, Wobben as modified in claim 1 includes a three-dimensional display in which one axis represents locations within the network segment, a second axis the number of incidents that occurred, and the third axis periods of time. Wobben

teaches that the display can be produced in an updated fashion according to a defined time period. The respective maps or overviews can be produced by virtue of continuous operating data acquisition in up-to-date fashion, that is to say with the up-to-dateness of a day or less but also with the up-to-dateness of a week. The person looking at the map/overview can see therefrom, how reliable (or how unreliable) the installations of a given manufacturer/operator generally are and can form therefrom a judgment about the quality of the installations [0040]. Thus, the display includes the number of and where incidents are occurring within the network in that each incident is represented on the display by a color-coded symbol. However, Wobben, Cease, and Excel fail to include processing the information of a plurality of network segments to ascertain the number of incidents which occur over a predetermined period of time and displaying the results in a graphic format. The invention of Bauer includes the use of trouble reports and complaints from customers to narrow the possible locations for failures in the network. A trouble history analyzer is included to take into consideration past complications and problems for finding faults in the network. Bauer describes a black spot analyzer that performs the function of incorporating customer complaints to determine the location of a failure in the network as well as a trouble history analyzer [col. 15, lines 15-24, lines 38-49]. Bauer further teaches using the black spot and trouble history analyzers where rule based classifier 356 is preferably another rule-based expert system. It is programmed with rules to make predictions about failure locations based on the conclusions drawn by footprint analyzer 350, black spot analyzer 352 and trouble history analyzer 354 and based on information about the current line, including footprint

information, cable data and historical failure information [col. 15, lines 52-59]. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the method of Wobben to include processing the number of problems within areas of a network segment as taught in Bauer and include them in the display. One would have been motivated to make such a modification such that particularly trouble prone network segments may receive closer surveillance so as to facilitate the locating of faults in the monitored network. Additionally, by determining the locations within the network where problems historically occur, preventative measures may be taken to alleviate future problems and responses to occurring problems may be accelerated.

In regard to claim **21**, the same basis and rationale for claim rejection as applied to claims 3 and 19 are applied.

In regard to claim **22**, the same basis and rationale for claim rejection as applied to claims 4 and 19 are applied.

In regard to claim **23**, the same basis and rationale for claim rejection as applied to claims 5 and 21 are applied.

In regard to claim **25**, the same basis and rationale for claim rejection as applied to claims 13 and 19 are applied.

In regard to claim **26**, the same basis and rationale for claim rejection as applied to claims 14 and 25 are applied.

In regard to claim **27**, the same basis and rationale for claim rejection as applied to claims 15 and 25 are applied.

4. Claim **24** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wobben (2004/0021687 A1), Sams Teach Yourself Microsoft Excel 2000 in 24 Hours, Cease et al. ("Real-Time Monitoring"), and Bauer et al. (6,026,145) as applied to claim 23 above, and further in view of Sams Teach Yourself Microsoft PowerPoint 2000 in 10 Minutes.

In regard to claim **24**, the same basis and rationale for claim rejection as applied to claims 6 and 23 are applied.

5. Claim **28** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wobben (2004/0021687 A1) in view of Cease et al. ("Real-Time Monitoring").

In regard to claim **28**, Wobben teaches of providing a graphic display of an electrical distribution network to provide insight into network operations. As can be seen in the display of Fig. 2, Wobben includes displaying the information of a network of power installations along with color-coded symbols signifying whether operations within the display are acceptable, and if not, where the problem is occurring and the magnitude of the problem. However, Wobben does not teach of monitoring line

segments within the network and processing the information to ascertain relative performance characteristic values within different portions of the line segments. Cease et al. discloses a system of phasor measurement units employed throughout the TVA power system that are able to monitor the voltage and current at their position in the system. Cease describes placing the measurement units at certain buses (service paths) in order to monitor the TVA system [pg. 49 §System Placement]. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the invention of Wobben to include monitoring the results of the characteristics of service paths within the network as in Cease et al. and display these according to the symbol methodology as taught in Wobben [0012, 0027 and Fig. 2]. One would have been motivated to make such a modification to Wobben so that the system for monitoring the health of power stations and their interconnections may be more comprehensive in their evaluations and generated performance display. Furthermore Wobben states that historical information may also be displayed so that a viewer may be better able to ascertain the reliability of the installations in the network [0015].

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michelle K. Lay whose telephone number is (571) 272-7661. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:30am to 5:00pm. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

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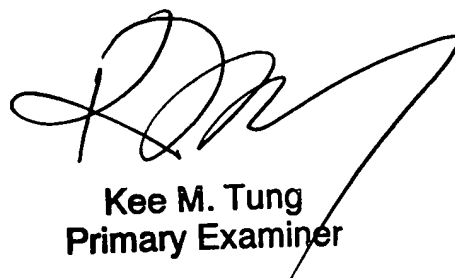
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kee M. Tung, can be reached at (571) 272-7794. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Michelle K. Lay
Patent Examiner
Division 2628
06.20.2006 mkl



PATENT EXAMINER



Kee M. Tung
Primary Examiner